

# Recognitions at February 2008 State Board Meeting

- **Middle School Social Studies Teacher of the Year**

State Superintendent Jim Rex and State Board of Education member Phillip Bowers (right in photo) congratulate Riverside Middle School teacher Hale Edwards for her selection as 2007 National Middle Level Social Studies Teacher of the Year. The Greenville County educator founded and sponsored the Model United Nations program and developed a Character Education program at Riverside. She is a National Board Certified teacher and was recognized by the State Council for Social Studies in 2006 when she was named the “Middle School Teacher of Excellence.”



- **Afterschool Alliance Ambassador**

State Superintendent Jim Rex congratulates Richland School District One afterschool administrator Dr. Traci Young Cooper for being named an Ambassador by the Afterschool Alliance, a national nonprofit public awareness and advocacy organization. Cooper has served as a teacher, curriculum specialist, assistant principal, and was the 2002 State Teacher of the Year. She now oversees Richland One’s comprehensive remediation programs, 21st Century Community Learning Centers, athletic tutorial programs, a youth obesity prevention program, arts-infused programs and afterschool child care extended-day programs. She used her Teacher of the Year stipend to establish a scholarship program at Columbia High School, her alma mater.



- **School Bus Poster Contest Winner**

State Superintendent Jim Rex and State Board member Patsy Pye (right in photo) congratulate Mia Janay Ulmer, statewide winner of the 2006–07 School Bus Safety Poster Contest. Mia was a 13 year-old sixth grader attending William J. Clark Middle in Orangeburg Consolidated School District 5 when she drew the poster. Copies of Mia’s poster will be distributed statewide to elementary and middle schools during School Bus Driver Appreciation Week, May 4-10, 2008. Her art teacher is Malissa Wright.

